



News from
SALEM COUNTY
Office of Public Information

Mr. Robin B. Weinstein, Public Information Officer
Office Phone: (856) 935-7510 ext. 8202
After Hours: (856) 297-5433

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**MESSAGE TO GOVERNOR CHRISTI – LOWER FLAGS IN NEW JERSEY
IN HONOR OF
ARMY SPC. RICHARD EMMONS, III**

(Salem, NJ) - Today Bruce Bobbitt, Freeholder from Salem County and a veteran of the Viet Nam conflict announced that he is petitioning Governor Chris Christie to honor US Army Spc. Richard C. Emmons III who recently gave his life defending America in Afghanistan.

Army Spc. Richard Emmons III was a signal support systems specialist with the 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team serving as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. Emmons was born and raised in Salem County graduating from the Woodstown Middle School. He then relocated to Connecticut where his official residence was located at the time of his death. Connecticut Governor Dannel Malloy has ordered all flags to be flown in his state at half-staff in honor of the fallen hero.

Freeholder Bobbitt has urged Governor Christie to likewise honor Spc. Emmons since he was born and raised in Salem County, and still has many beloved family and friends here in the area. Mr. Bobbitt stated “Spc. Emmons gave his life serving our country; I understand that as his place of residence that Connecticut took the appropriate action of lowering the flag in his honor. But since Spc. Emmons has deep roots here in New Jersey I believe that he should be so honored here as well”.

Freeholder Director Ware echoed and applauds Freeholder Bobbitt’s commitment to our men and women in uniform. “When one of our men or women in the armed services gives their life for our freedom we all should honor their memory and sacrifice”, said Ware. Spc. Emmons was awarded the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart for his bravery and sacrifice, Freeholder Bobbitt said that “all Americans owe him and his family our gratitude, I urge Governor Christie to allow New Jersey to lower our flags in respect”.

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